Cases of Encroachment on Government Land

219. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any cases of alleged encroachment on Government lands by unscrupulous property dealers and others have been referred by Member of Parliament during the current year ; and

(b) if so, the region-wise details of such cases, indicating the action taken by Government and other authorities to remove the encroachment indicating the precise location and the nature of encroachments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that no specific reference regarding encroachment of land by any property dealer has been received from any Member of Parliament during the current year. However, 13 complaints in regard to encroachment by others have been received from the Members of Parliament. All the complaints have been attended to and encroachments have been removed in 11 cases. Delhi Administration have informed that a complaint regarding alleged encroachment at the site adjoining MCD Primary School, Kanti Nagar has been received. At present the matter is sub judice. However, steps have been initiated to get the land of MCD Primary School demarcated from the land of private persons.

So far as land under the control of L & DO is concerned, references have been received from the Members of Parliament for removal of unauthorised coal Depot on Government land at Gandhi Market, Mirdard Road, New Delhi. Delhi High Court have stayed the proceedings against the anauthorised occupants in the court of Estate Officer, Land & Development Office.

Vaidyanathan Committee Report on Pricing of Irrigation Water

220. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Report of the Committee on pricing of irrigation water headed by Shri Vaidyanathan has cautioned on continuing the stupendous amount of subsidy on irrigation on the present scale ;

(b) whether the report has been welcomed by the World Bank for the bold measures proposed therein ; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in implementing the proposals contained in the report so as to make State afforts on irrigation both equitable and sustainable.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : The recommendations of the Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water under the chairmanship of Dr. A Vaidyanathan, former Member, Planning Commission inter-alia include : treating water rates as users' charge ; the objective of water charge is ultimately to recover cost ; linking revision of water rates to the improvement of the quality of service ; revision and implementation of water rates in phases ; consolidation of the system of farmer group management ; upgrading the system to higher level efficiency in water use and productivity, setting up of experts group at the State level for working out norms and procedure for fixing operation and maintenance cost, setting up of autonomous boards at the State level to review policy regarding cost of water, revising water rates and introduction a minimum financial return criteria.

With a view to go into the report of the Committee and to have a broad spectrum of views on various recommendations made by the Committee, the planning Commision has constituted a group of officials under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Planning